



THE GREAT EQUALIZER

ECCLESIASTES 9:10-12

Woodland Park Church of Christ

4 February 2018

BACKDROP

- Solomon offers some lines that appear counterintuitive –
 - **The race is not to the swift**
 - **Battle is not won by the strong (or the more mighty men)**
 - **The wise go hungry**
 - **Riches do not always go to men of understanding (those adept at solving problems or rendering effective outcomes)**
 - **The highly skilled are not favored**



Well, what determines success or favorable outcome?

Solomon offers a response –

Time and chance happen to them all. Eccles. 9:11

- Would appear that Solomon appears to offer luck as an explanation.
- Fortune has its place, but I think it runs a bit deeper!



It is akin to the disciples' reaction when Jesus remarked, *“It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.”*

- *They were greatly astonished, saying among themselves “Who then can be saved?”*
- Jesus' response, *“With men it is impossible, but not with God; for with God all things are possible.”* **Mark 10:25-27**



God is our GREAT EQUALIZER!

We move through faith that he will reward us if we diligently seek Him. See Hebrews 11:6

For the Lord God is a sun and shield ; The Lord will give grace and glory; no good thing will he withhold from those who walk uprightly. Psalm 84:11

So let's not get tired of doing what is good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't give up. Galatians 6:9 NLT



Also, check out Ecclesiastes 9:10 →

Whatever your hands find to do, do it with your might . . .

- When the opportunity arises, seize it!
- So, be ready!



I was shocked to learn that 18 members of the New England Patriots' 53 roster were not drafted by any NFL teams.

- This includes starters Danny Amendola and Chris Hogan (WRs), Malcolm Butler (DB), and Ryan Allen (P)
- Players who were considered second or third tier or whom many thought did not belong in the National Football League





WEEK 16

DEFENSIVE

PLAYER OF THE WEEK



1ST CAREER PLAYER OF THE WEEK AWARD

MIKE HILTON
PITTSBURGH STEELERS



Steelers Depot

MIKE HILTON

- Every time I spoke with NFL personnel about him, there was always, “He did some nice things at Ole Miss, but he is”
 - Little small
 - Too short
 - Not on our size chart
- Interestingly, moments after he signed with the Steelers in December 2016, an Atlanta area Footlocker called to extend offer of employment



THE VICTOR'S CREED

- I will trust in God!
- I am willing to do the things others are not.
- I will fight against the odds.
- I will sacrifice.
- I am not **shackled** by fear, insecurity or doubt.
- I am motivated by accomplishment – not pride.
- I will not let negativity, regardless of the source, deter me!



LORD'S INVITATION

- **Be added to the Lord's body**

Hear the gospel (**Romans 10:17**)

Believe the gospel (**Hebrews 11:6, Acts 15:7**)

Repent of sins (**Acts 2:38**)

Confess Christ (**Matthew 10:32; Romans 10:10**)

Be baptized for the remission of sin (**Acts 2:38**) or



INVITATION CONT'D

- **Be reconciled unto the Lord (I John 1:9); or**
- **Desire prayer (James 5:16).**

